GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1232
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2016
Safety of Passengers
Sawaikar Shri Advocate Narendra Keshav

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passenger safety during travel by train is a major concern for the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the monitoring devise to ensure safety of passengers;

(c) whether the Government reviews the safety of passengers from time to time and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government intends to streamline the existing safety measures and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1232 BY ADV. NARENDRA KESHAV SAWAIKAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.11.2016 REGARDING SAFETY OF PASSENGERS.

(a) and (b): Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP by deploying its staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive stations.
Besides, the following steps are also being taken by the Railways to provide security:

1. On vulnerable and identified routes/ sections, 2500 trains (on an average) are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.
2. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras, provided at about 344 stations over Indian Railways, to ensure safety and security of passengers.
3. Security Help Line number 182 is made operational over Indian Railways for security related assistance to passengers in distress.
4. An Integrated Security System consisting of surveillance of vulnerable stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, Access Control etc. has been sanctioned to improve surveillance mechanism over 202 railway stations.
5. CCTV cameras have been installed on a limited number of coaches of passengers and suburban trains for surveillance on a pilot basis. Sanction for provision of CCTV cameras in 500 coaches has been obtained under Rolling Stock Programme 2015-16. Work has already been completed in about 25 passenger coaches and 32 suburban coaches.

6. Sniffer Dog Squads are utilized at some important stations for anti-sabotage checks.
7. Joint drives by Commercial Department and RPF are conducted from time to time against the entry of unauthorized persons in trains and railway premises.
8. Frequent announcements are made through Public Address system to educate passengers to take precautions against theft, snatching, drugging etc.
9. Close liaison is made by RPF with the State Police/ GRP authorities at all levels for prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law & order in Railway premises as well as on running trains.

(c) and (d): Regular coordination meetings are held by RPF with the State Police/ GRP authorities to review and streamline the measures taken for the safety and security of passengers. Analysis of passengers related crime is done to identify affected trains, stations and sections and accordingly security arrangements are made in close coordination with GRP for safety and security of passengers over Indian Railways.